



T. HOWARD
B. HOWARD
MELNIKOV
GUERRERO

PUNCHLINE:

THE GOTHAM GAME

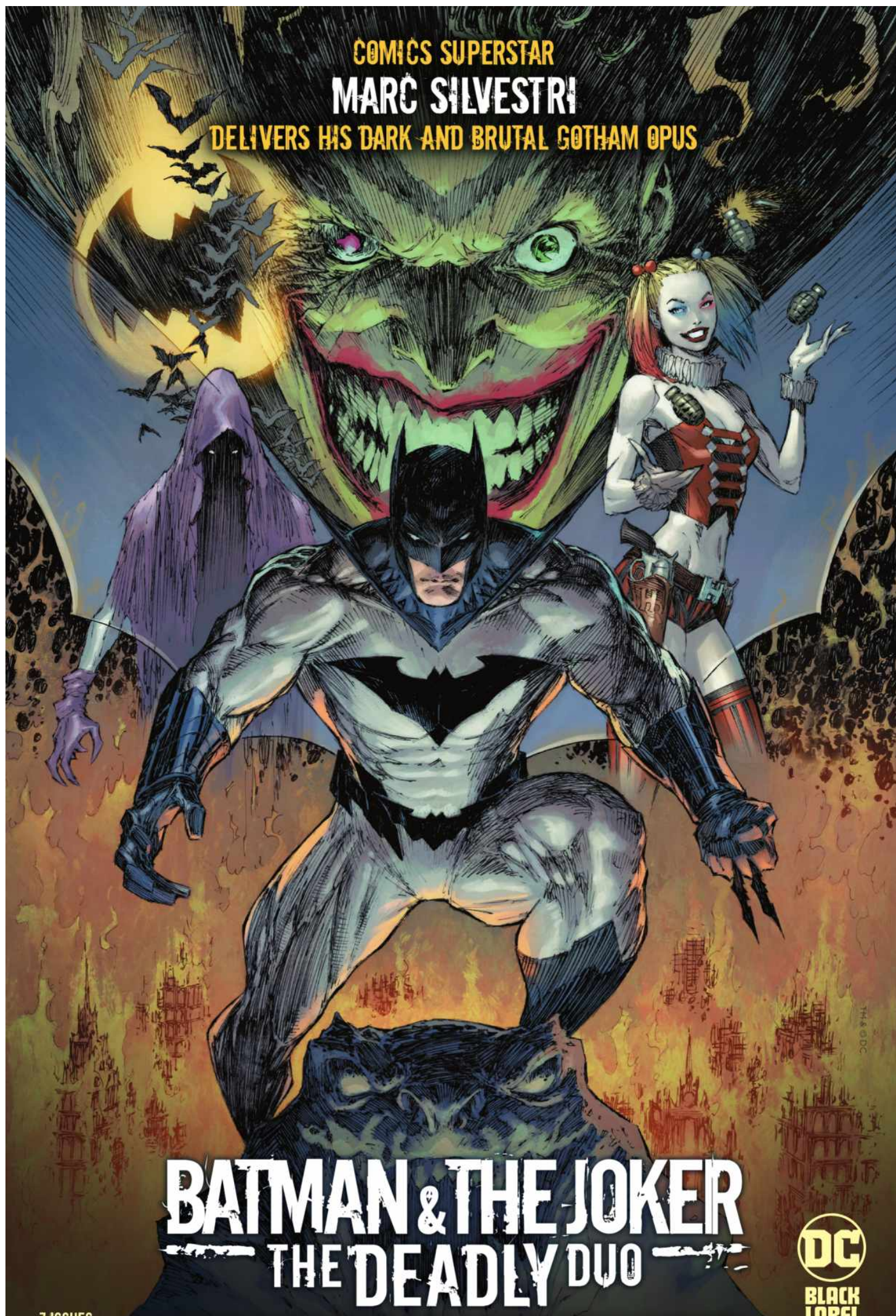
THE
CLOWN
COUNTLESS
OF CRIME
RETURNS



ES13+
DC.COM

DC
BLACK
ADAM

COMICS SUPERSTAR
MARC SILVESTRI
DELIVERS HIS DARK AND BRUTAL GOTHAM OPUS



BATMAN & THE JOKER
THE DEADLY DUO



"ALEXIS KAYE, THE
VILLAIN BETTER KNOWN
AS **PUNCHLINE**,
IS A **MONSTER**."



"BY HER OWN ADMISSION,
SHE IS AN AGENT OF CHAOS,
AND THE PRODUCT OF A
HYPER-VIOLENT WORLD."

VENTURA FREMONT
OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY,
VICTIM'S ADVOCACY
BUREAU.

AND AS OF THIS
AFTERNOON, SHE IS
HEREBY **ACQUITTED**
OF ALL CHARGES
LEVIED AGAINST HER
BY THE CITY OF
GOTHAM.

I
WOULD LIKE
TO APPLAUD MY
COLLEAGUES ON THE
PROSECUTORIAL TEAM.
IT WAS A **NOBLY**
FOUGHT CASE, AND
WE COMMEND
YOU.

LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN, THE
PEOPLE WHO **FAILED**
TODAY ARE THE
PEOPLE OF
GOTHAM.



I KNOW
WHAT I SAY
WILL NOT BE
POPULAR.

BUT
THERE IS A DEEP
CRISIS OF CHARACTER
AT THE **CORE** OF
THIS CITY!



THE
VERDICT OF ALEXIS
KAYE'S PEERS ONLY
CONFIRMS IT. AND IT
DOES NOTHING BUT
VINDICATE THE
MISANTHROPIC!

LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN,
AS GOTHAMITES,
WE HAVE TO
CHOOSE!



--WHAT IS
THE FACE THAT
WE WANT TO
SHOW TO THE
WORLD?











PUNCHLINE?!

f19u4e170ut:
PUNCHLINE!

5mileX83:
omfg pruchline!

b00gerNights:
i just got back
what i miss?

1.2k VIEWERS ONLINE.
NEW RECORD.

PUNCHLINE:
THE
GOTHAM
GAME
PART 1

TINI HOWARD & BLAKE HOWARD WRITERS GLEB MELNIKOV ARTIST
LUIS GUERRERO COLORS BECCA CAREY LETTERS GLEB MELNIKOV COVER
DERRICK CHEW, RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE, GUILLEM MARCH & TOMEU MOREY,
ROSE BESCH, MATEUS MANHANINI VARIANT COVERS
DAVE WIELGOSZ EDITOR BEN ABERNATHY GROUP EDITOR

!

THIS STREAM HAS BEEN TERMINATED
FOR BREAKING THE COMMUNITY
POLICY ON VIOLENT CONTENT.

!





THIS IS THE GCPD!
THIS HAS BEEN DECLARED
AN UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLY!
VACATE THE PREMISES AND
RETURN TO YOUR
HOMES, NOW!

TCH!
PIGS.

I'VE WORKED
FAR TOO LONG
ON THIS BLEND TO
HAVE IT SPOILED
BY A *NOBODY*
LIKE YOU!

GOOD NEWS FOR
YOU...LOOKS LIKE THE
NANNY STATE HAS DECIDED
YOUR SUICIDE WILL *NOT*
BE TELEVIEWED.

OOH, *TWO THOUSAND*
VIEWS.
WE GOT A REAL
INFLUENCER ON
OUR HANDS.

I CAN'T...
I CAN'T
SEE...

WE ARE
AUTHORIZED TO
USE FORCE!

YOU,
ON YOUR
FEET.

HNNGH...
UHH...WH-WHERE
ARE WE GOING?

WE
ARE GOING TO
GENERATE SOME
CONTENT.

TWO DAYS LATER.

BZZT
BZZT

MMM...LAST TEXT SAID SHE WOULD BE HERE AROUND THREE O'CLOCK...

WHICH WAS TEN MINUTES AGO...YOU DON'T THINK--

NO. SHE DOESN'T SEEM THE TYPE TO PLAY GAMES.

SEE?
"JUST GOT THRU GATE. PARKING NOW."

THANK GOODNESS.

TK TK TK TK TK TK TK TK TK TK TK TK

PARK...
IN...THE...
GUEST...SPOTS...
YOU'LL NEED...
A VISITOR
PASS.

DING DONG

THAT'D BE HER.

NERVOUS? NO. YOU?

NEVER.

MY QUEEN...

MY KING...

DING DONG

WELL...HELLO THERE.

YOU LOOK A BIT DIFFERENT FROM YOUR PICS, NOT THAT I'M COMPLAINING.

NOT ONE BIT.



DID YOU HAVE TROUBLE FINDING THE PLACE?

OH, NO. THERE'S NO HIDING FROM ME.



COME ON IN...

WHAT A LOVELY HOME YOU HAVE.

RETIREMENT HAS SUITED US WELL.

STILL, WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WAYS TO SPICE THINGS UP.



THEN, BABIES... I'M YOUR CAPSAICIN.

BEDROOM IS UP HERE?



RATHER ASSERTIVE, AREN'T WE?

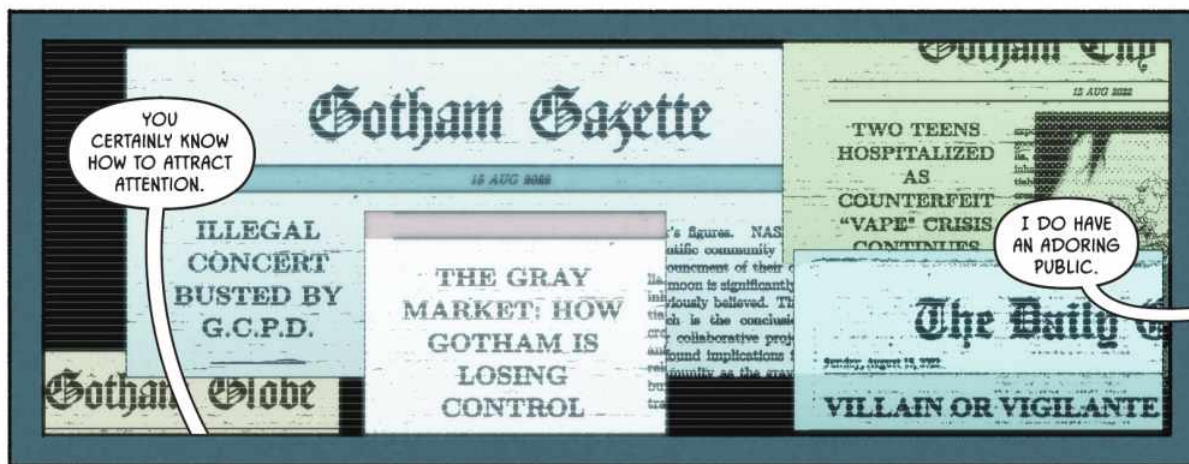
I DON'T LIKE SMALL TALK. I'M HERE FOR ONE REASON, AND ONE REASON ALONE.



HMM...I LOVE YOUR **ENTHUSIASM**. BUT WE PREFER TO PUT ON A LITTLE R&B AND HAVE SOME DRI--









YOU'RE NOT SUGGESTING THAT YOU AREN'T **SPECIAL** TO ME, ARE YOU, 1-O? YOU THINK YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER CARD IN THE DECK?

UTTERLY EXPENDABLE AND WORTHLESS?

OF COURSE NOT!

THAT'S MY BOY GENIUS! THE **QUEEN** NEEDS TO PLAY WITH A **FULL DECK**.

HEH...I THOUGHT INSTEAD OF THE **QUEEN** YOU'D BE THE **JOK--**

SHHH!



SHUT THE @\$\$% UP, 1-O.

NOW, YOU'LL LOOK AFTER THIS ONE IF I WANNA GET OUT OF HERE?

WHAT'S YOUR PLAN WITH HIM?

I DON'T HAVE A PLAN WITH HIM.

BUT HE'S **SEEN TOO MUCH**, SO HE'S STAYING WITH ME. I HAVEN'T DECIDED WHAT TO DO WITH HIM YET.



!!!!INTERESTING. I CERTAINLY COULD DO WITH A GUINEA PIG.

HA! A GERMAN MAD SCIENTIST. NOTHING LIKE A GOOD CLICHÉ.



I'M FROM AMSTERDAM.

DON'T



WHAT DID YOU HAVE IN MIND?

AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, CAN I WATCH?

I INSIST.

JUST A RECENT BIT OF CORPORATE ESPIONAGE, COURTESY OF YOURS TRULY.



A MOTHBALLLED DESIGN FROM LEXCORP'S NANO-TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT.

BIOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENT THROUGH TECHNOLOGICAL FUSION.

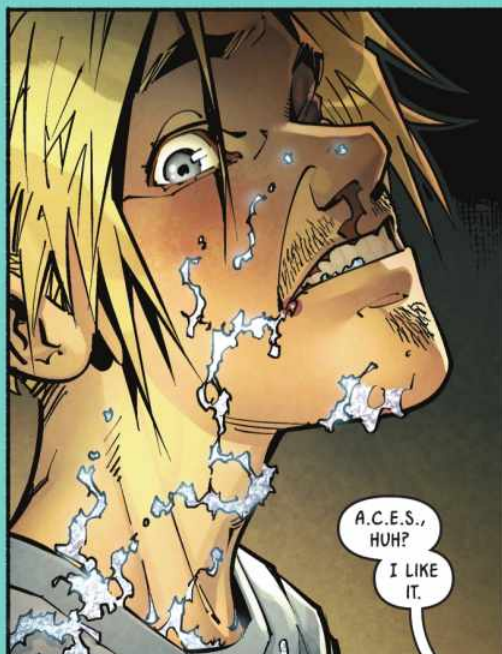


GUH... G-GET AWAY!



YOUR BASIC "HARDER, BETTER, FASTER, STRONGER" DEAL. THEY CALLED IT...AND GET THIS...

...THE AUGMENTED COMBAT ENDO-SKELETON.



A.C.E.S., HUH? I LIKE IT.



SPLRRRRCH
YAAAAAGGGHHH!

NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL AN ACE IN THE HOLE.

GOTHAM CITY
D.A.'S OFFICE,
VICTIM'S
ADVOCACY
BUREAU.

THANK YOU
FOR TAKING TIME
TO SEE ME, *MRS.*
PETROSYAN...







I DON'T KNOW IF YOU KEEP AN EYE ON GOTHAM'S DRUG LAWS, BUT THEY CHANGE **FAST**.

THEY'RE ALWAYS CATCHING ON TO WHATEVER **FUN NEW PARTY DRUG** IS OUT.

THOSE ARE MADE BY **AMATEURS**. I CONSIDERED THAT.



THE INGREDIENTS IN XO CAN'T BE **OUTLAWED**-- THEY'RE OTHERWISE INNOCUOUS AND **IMPORTANT**.

THIS IS **SODIUM PETULATE**. WITHOUT IT, THEY CAN'T MAKE **BABY DIAPERS**.

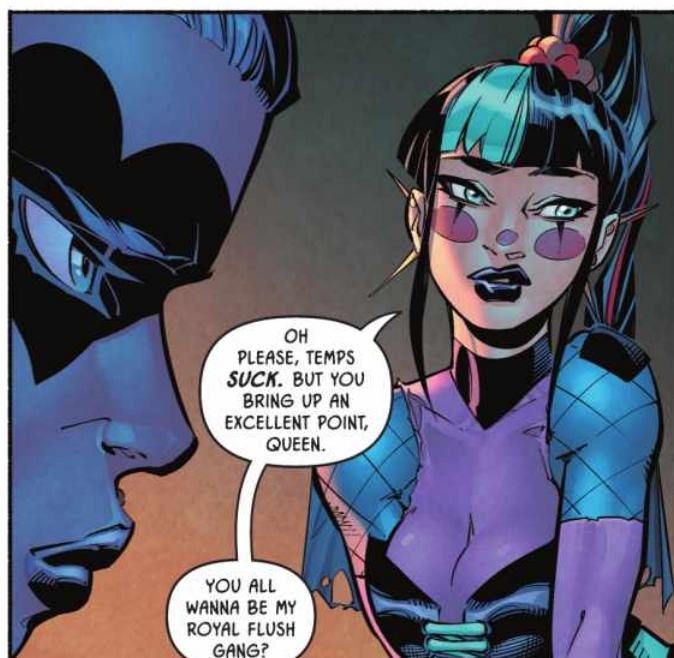
YOU WANT TO OUTLAW THIS ONE? IT'S **TERAPATREOUS ZINFILATE**. GOOD LUCK SEALING SHIPPING CRATES FOR OCEAN TRAVEL WITHOUT IT.



THEY CAN'T OUTLAW **MY MIND**.



IS **THIS** WHY YOU NEED A NEW ROYAL FLUSH GANG? TO STUFF **ENVELOPES**? I AM OUT. YOU CAN HIRE A **TEMP**.



OH PLEASE, TEMPS **SUCK**. BUT YOU BRING UP AN EXCELLENT POINT, **QUEEN**.

YOU ALL WANNA BE MY ROYAL FLUSH GANG?

"I COULD BE
PLAYING THIS *HAND*
A LITTLE BETTER..."

"IT'S SIMPLE SUPPLY AND DEMAND. I'M
GOING TO NEED A PLACE FOR THE REST OF
THE GANG TO GET TO WORK ON THIS STUFF.
AFOREMENTIONED *ENVELOPE-STUFFING*
AND *GENERAL CHEMISTRY*."

"THERE'S AN ACE PROCESSING CENTER IN
ALLEYTOWN, FROM BACK WHEN PEOPLE
HAD JOBS IN THAT PART OF TOWN."

"OTHER THAN *EIKO HASIGAWA* USING IT
FOR SOME OF HER ILLEGAL YAKUZA SHIPPING
MEETUPS, IT'S EMPTY. AND *PERFECT* FOR MY
NEW BUSINESS ENTERPRISE. *DRAINS IN*
THE FLOOR AND EVERYTHING."

"WE NEED A
PROCESSING PLANT."

"BUT *SHE* WON'T GIVE THIS
ONE UP EASILY. SHE'S TOO
TIGHT WITH *CATWOMAN*."

SO. WE.
GO. TAKE.
IT. FROM.
THEM.

HA!
STARTING
A TURF WAR WITH
THE HASIGAWA CLAN?
THAT SEEMS LIKE *JUST*
THE GAME FOR THE
ROYAL FLUSH
GANG!





...AND BATMAN STILL OPTS FOR SPIRIT GUM AND SCARRING LIQUID.

SOMETIMES THE OLD WAYS ARE THE BEST WAYS...

I HAVE EYES ON PUNCHLINE.

I'VE GOT EYES ON A GCPD HELICOPTER INBOUND ON YOUR POSITION, LESS THAN A MINUTE OUT.

IF BRUCE WAYNE GETS SNAGGED IN A RAID AT AN UNDER THE BRIDGE SHOW AND YOU'LL HAVE ONE HELL OF A PR NIGHTMARE!

ORACLE, SEE WHAT YOU CAN FIND ON THAT LIVESTREAM. PATCH THE FEED TO THE BATMOBILE.

ONCE I GET EYES ON WHAT SHE'S UP TO...



STOP, PLEASE, STOP! PUNCHLINE?! RRRRRVVRP! --OP, PLEASE, STOP!

...I'M GOING

**NEXT:
THE QUEEN
OF ACE
CHEMICAL!**



CELEBRATE AN UNFORGETTABLE DECADE WITH
DC '90S REWIND COVERS.



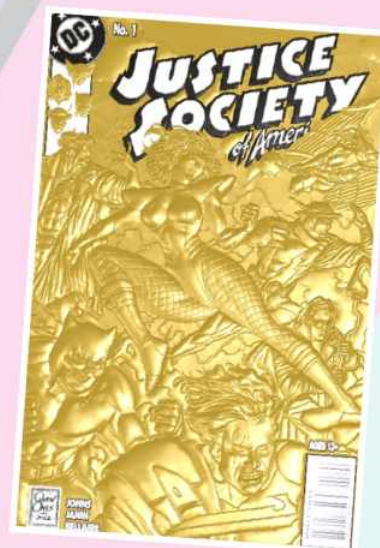
NOVEMBER



MISS OUT ON THESE VARIANT COVERS?

AS IF!





LOOK FOR DC'S '90S REWIND VARIANT COVERS ALL NOVEMBER

- ☐ **Action Comics #1049** by ROGER CRUZ
- ☐ **Batman #129*** by RYAN BENJAMIN
- ☐ **Batman Incorporated #2*** by CHRIS BURNHAM
- ☐ **Batman vs. Robin #3** by CARLO BARBERI
- ☐ **Batman/Superman World's Finest #9** by MARIO "FOX" FOCCILLO
- ☐ **Batgirls #12** by PAULINA GANUCHEAU
- ☐ **Black Adam #6** by PETE WOODS
- ☐ **Catwoman #49** by JIM BALENT
- ☐ **Detective Comics #1066** by KYLE HOTZ
- ☐ **Harley Quinn #24** by JONBOY MEYERS
- ☐ **I Am Batman #15** by KHARY RANDOLPH
- ☐ **Justice Society of America #1*** by JOE QUINONES
- ☐ **Nightwing #98** by BRIAN STELFREEZE
- ☐ **Superman: Son of Kal-El #17** by STEVEN BUTLER
- ☐ **The Flash #788** by TODD NAUCK
- ☐ **The Joker: The Man Who Stopped Laughing #2*** by KELLEY JONES
- ☐ **Tim Drake: Robin #3** by TODD NAUCK
- ☐ **WildC.A.T.s #1*** by BRETT BOOTH and SANDRA HOPE
- ☐ **Wonder Woman #793** by JEN BARTEL



DC NATION **SPOTLIGHT ON**

BATMAN & THE JOKER — THE DEADLY DUO —

WHAT IS *BATMAN & THE JOKER: THE DEADLY DUO* ABOUT?

It's a journey into the heart of darkness. It's a story that looks at what's important in a person's life, and how far they're willing to go to protect it. What happens when your life is defined, literally, by the very existence of another person? How long can two bitter enemies hold it in before they absolutely have to beat the crap out of each other? [Laughs]

We begin with a dilemma that The Joker finds himself in; then we move to Batman investigating a crime that turns out to be much more than he bargained for. Suddenly, he realizes The Joker has done something that gives Batman no out, and by the end of the first issue, they're teammates. That's where it starts—and as crazy as the first issue is, it just keeps going.

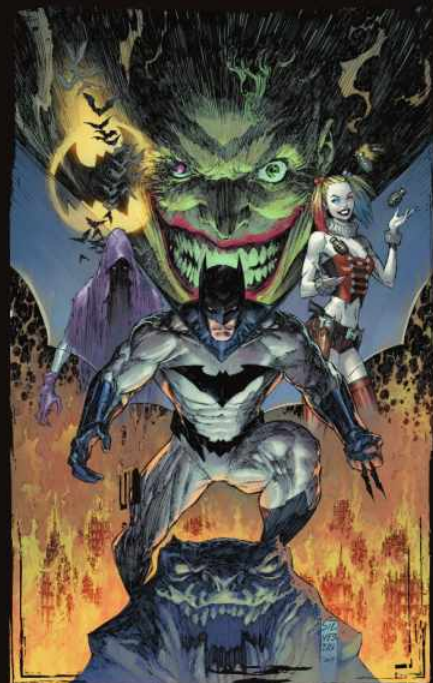
HOW DID YOU BRING YOUR SIGNATURE ART STYLE TO *BATMAN AND GOTHAM CITY*?

I think people who have followed my career will recognize, fairly quickly, that this looks different. It looks like me, but there's other things going on. The way I approached Gotham—massively impossible buildings that just look really cool and give a feeling of claustrophobia and life.

With the Batmobile, I went away from the tanklike look and made it more sleek. The same with my Batman. My Batman looks fast. He's powerful. I've always considered Batman to be a real force of nature. He's physically imposing.

WHAT IS THE TONE OF *DEADLY DUO*?

It's a buddy-cop horror story. It's dark, but definitely has shards of humor in it. When you think of the situation itself—Batman and The Joker have to work together to fight a new common foe—that situation is both horrifying and funny at the same time.



**DON'T MISS
BATMAN & THE JOKER:
THE DEADLY DUO #1,
ON SALE IN NOVEMBER!**

DC **BLACK
LABEL**
AGES 17+

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PUNCHLINE: THE GOTHAM GAME 1, December, 2022. Published monthly by DC Comics, 4000 Warner Blvd., Bldg. 700, 2nd Floor, Burbank, CA 91522. GST # is R125921072. Copyright © 2022 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and related elements are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. DC Comics does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. For Advertising and Custom Publishing contact dccomicsadvertising@dccomics.com. For details on DC Comics Ratings, visit dc.com/ratings.

SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

